Hon. Robert F. Kennedy
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

January 8, 1967

Dear Senator Kennedy:

Enclosed herewith is a carbon copy of a letter I wrote last week to Senator Richard B. Russell. It is furnished for your information only.

First, I want you to know that I held President Kennedy in the highest esteem. If I subscribed to a creator I would be prone to say President Kennedy was God's gift to this nation. Certainly, he demonstrated a sense of social consciousness never before displayed by any Chief Executive except, perhaps, President Lincoln.

Secondly, I want you to know that I was not involved in the conspiracy referenced in the enclosed letter. Indeed, I resorted to every measure then available, short of taking a man's life, to counteract it. This included placing my own life and possibly the lives of my children in jeopardy.

Whether the tragedy at Dallas was indirectly or directly resultant from a conspiracy, only time and an unbiased, thorough inquiry will tell. But in either event the matter is now academic. The deed was done; and it could have been prevented. The Federal Bureau of Investigation was apprised of enough data to warrant the arrest and detention of Lee Oswald, at least until an investigation disclosed sufficient evidence to sanction an indictment. To my knowledge he was not even picked up for questioning.

Lastly, I want you to know there exists a far-reaching manifestation

concerning my own inquiry into Mr. Oswald's activities; a ramification, which, if exploited and twisted around by interested parties, might create additional doubt in the matter concerned and unnecessarily strain relations between the United States and another country. So I wish to emphasize that any conspiracy of which I had cognizance was neither Communist inspired nor instigated by any foreign government or representative thereof.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Hoagland